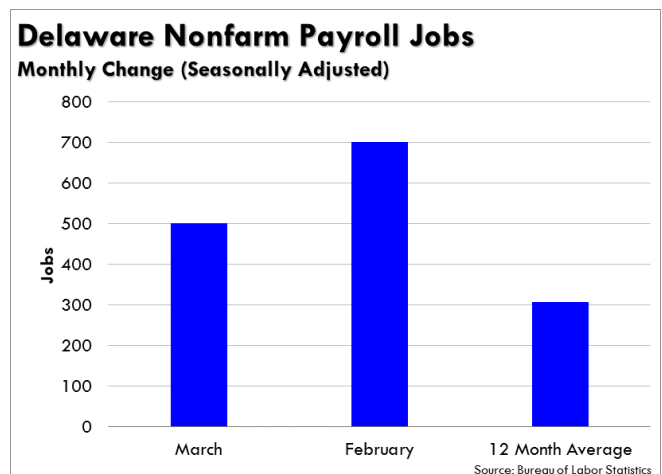
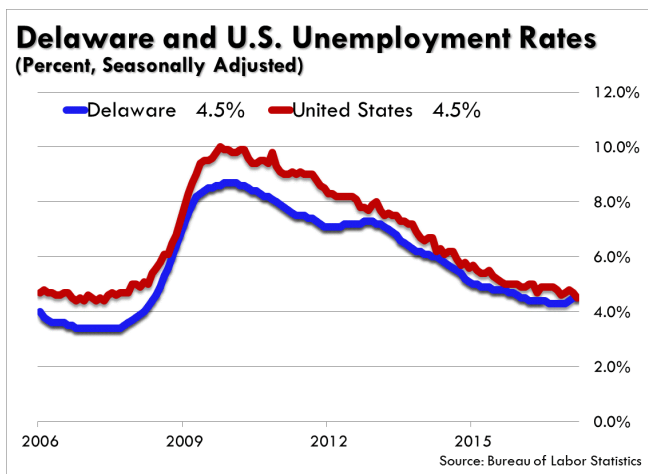


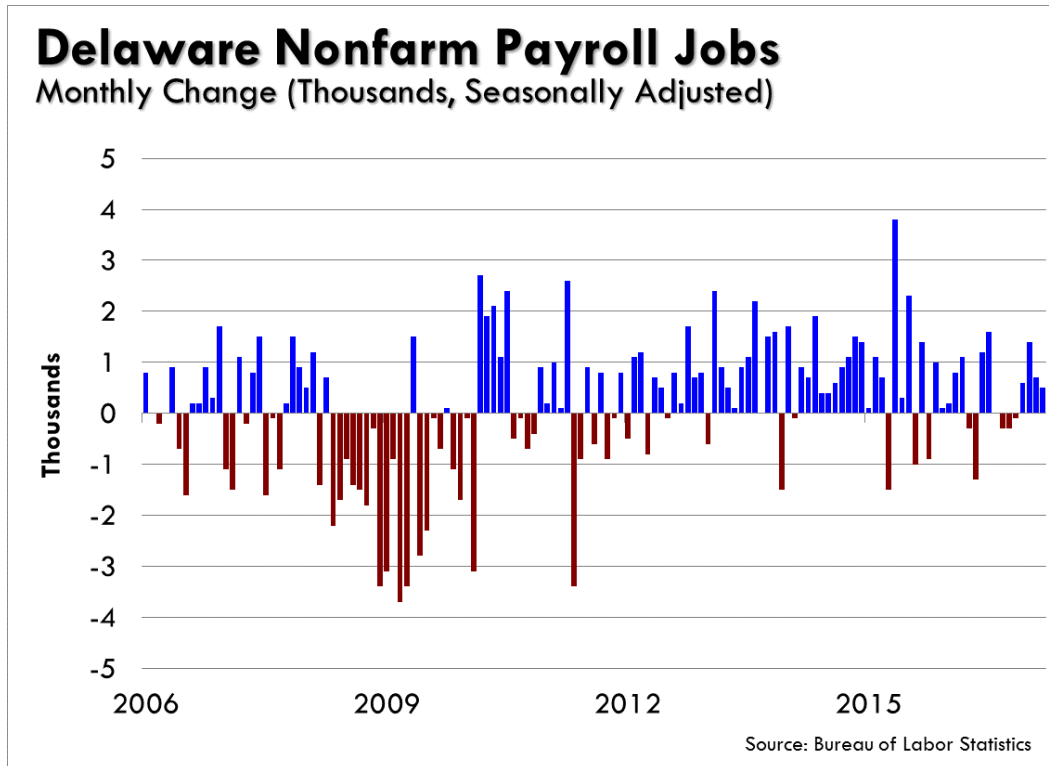


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Delaware added 500 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.5 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Delaware added 3,700 jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point from 4.4 percent.
- **In March, Delaware's private sector lost 400 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 2,600 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Delawareans rose by 364 in March**, and over the past year 324 Delawareans lost jobs.
- Delaware's **labor force participation rate increased to 62.4 percent** from 62.1 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.5 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Delaware Payroll Employment

Delaware added 500 jobs, or 0.11 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Delaware added 700 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Delaware increased by 3,700, or 0.82 percent. Delaware nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

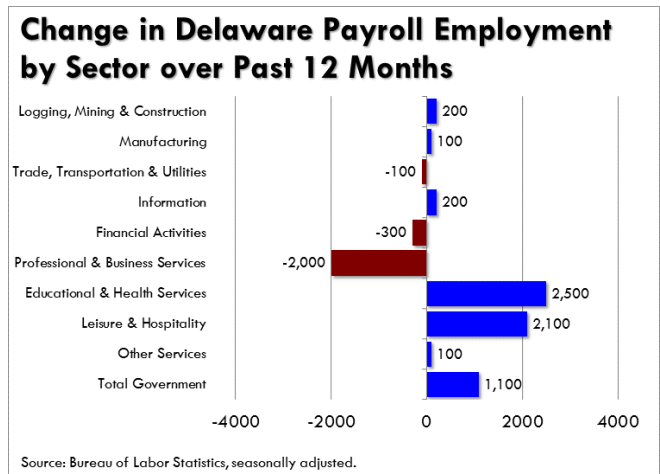
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Delaware ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Delaware's private-sector lost 400 jobs, or 0.10 percent. The private-sector in Delaware added 200 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Delaware increased by 2,600, or 0.67 percent. Delaware private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Delaware ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Professional & Business Services (+1,300) and Total Government (+900). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-800) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+2,500) and Leisure & Hospitality (+2,100). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (-2,000) and Financial Activities (-300).



Delaware Labor Force Statistics

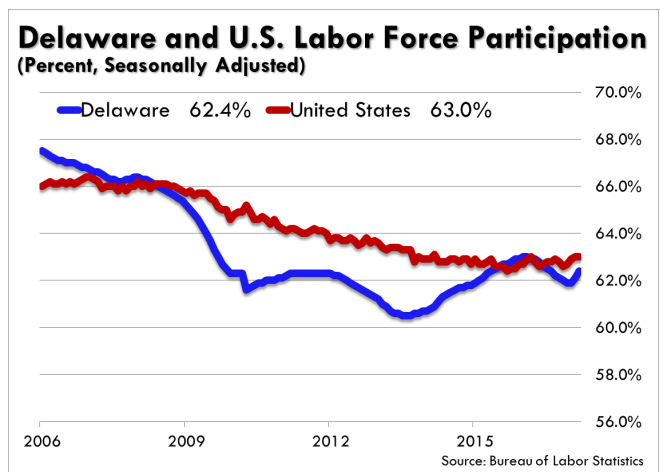
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Delaware rose to 62.4 percent in March from 62.1 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 33 have a higher labor force participation rate than Delaware. The labor force participation rate in Delaware is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Delaware was 66.5 percent in April 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Delaware occurred in January 1990 when the labor force participation rate hit 71.0 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 60.5 percent in September 2013. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Delaware. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Delaware civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 59.5 percent in March from 59.3 percent the prior



month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 33 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Delaware. The employment-to-population ratio in Delaware is 0.6 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Delaware was 64.2 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Delaware occurred in January 1990 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 68.3 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 56.3 percent in April 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in May 2010 when the employment-to-population ratio was 56.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

